Buses belonging to the Eight Seater Syndicate.

166 **MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI** (*Chirayinkil*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the buses belonging to the Eight Seater Syndicate are running without adhering to the rules regarding arrival and starting points;

(*b*) whether any one-ton bus plying for hire is allowed to run without adhering to the time table given to it; and

(*c*) if the answer to part (*b*) is in the negative, whether the bus T. V. R. No. 1082 is, as a matter of fact, plying without adhering to the time table given to it, and, if so, the action taken to stop the same?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) and (*b*) The answer is in the negative.

(*c*) T. V. R. No. 1082 is not given any timings as yet. It is not plying for hire.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): May I know the date on which the machine was purchased for the Stamp Manufactory?

PRESIDENT: We are at question 166.

The Whar-fe-dale printing machine in the Stamp Manufactory.

167 **MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI** (*Chirayinkil*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) when and at what cost a Whar-fe-dale printing machine was purchased for the Stamp Manufactory;

(*b*) whether this machine has been worked regularly and satisfactorily from the time it was got down, and, if not, why;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that this machine was fitted up by the Public Works Department, and, if so, at what cost; and

(*d*) whether there is a qualified hand in the Stamp Manufactory who will be able to fit up and work a Whar-fe-dale machine?

MR. S. VENKATARAMANA AIYAR (*Ag. Financial Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The machine was purchased in August 1927. Its cost was £ 400 or Rs. 5,487-12-0.

(*b*) No. It requires several hands to work the machine. Arrangements are being made to work the machine with electric power.

(*c*) Yes. The machine was received in parts and had therefore to be fitted up by the best available mechanic in Trivandrum. The cost of providing a concrete base, a wooden face for the machine to be mounted on, and fitting charges etc., together came to Rs. 151-8-8.

(*d*) There is a blacksmith in the Manufactory capable of fitting up and working the machine now.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): May I know the reason why the machine was not worked till now since the date of its purchase?

MR. S. VENKATARAMANA AIYAR (*Ag. Financial Secretary to Government*): The answer is given there.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): No answer is given here.

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MR. S. VENKATARAMANA AIYAR (*Ag. Financial Secretary to Government*): It requires several hands to work the machine. Arrangements are being made to work the machine with electric power.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): May I know when the machine was purchased?

MR. S. VENKATARAMANA AIYAR (*Ag. Financial Secretary to Government*): In August 1927.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Why was the machine not worked even though it was purchased in 1927?

MR. S. VENKATARAMANA AIYAR (*Ag. Financial Secretary to Government*): We have applied to the Electrical Engineer for power. It is only after power is obtained that the machine could be worked.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): May I know when electricity was introduced in Trivandrum?

MR. S. VENKATARAMANA AIYAR (*Ag. Financial Secretary to Government*): Recently. But we enquired if Power could be supplied when there was the proposal to introduce electricity in Trivandrum Town.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Then, may I ask the member whether it was in anticipation of the introduction of electricity in the Town that this machine was purchased for the Stamp Manufactory?

MR. S. VENKATARAMANA AIYAR (*Ag. Financial Secretary to Government*): At first it was thought that the machine could be worked with a certain number of hands; but it was not possible. Therefore we had to apply to the Electrical Engineer for power.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): May I know the date when the machine was purchased?

MR. S. VENKATARAMANA AIYAR (*Ag. Financial Secretary to Government*): The exact date of purchase of the machine is not available. It is in August 1927.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): I do not require the exact date. May I know who recommended the purchase of the machine for the Stamp Manufactory?

MR. S. VENKATARAMANA AIYAR (*Ag. Financial Secretary to Government*): Perhaps the then Financial Secretary.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): May I know, Sir, whether when this machine was recommended to be purchased, the Government knew the number of hands with which the machine could be worked?

MR. S. VENKATARAMANA AIYAR (*Ag. Financial Secretary to Government*): Probably the Financial Secretary then had no idea as to the number of men that would be required to work the machine.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Who put it into the head of the Financial Secretary that the machine was necessary?

MR. S. VENKATARAMANA AIYAR (*Ag. Financial Secretary to Government*): It was considered to be necessary.

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MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*) : Then why was it not worked?

MR. S. VENKATARAMANA AIYAR (*Ag. Financial Secretary to Government*) : Because more hands were required.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*) : May I know whether after the purchase of this machine there was a proposal to entertain more hands to work this maching?

MR. S. VENKATARAMANA AIYAR (*Ag. Financial Secretary to Government*) . That was not considered to be necessary because the Financial Secretary applied to the Electrical Engineer for power and it was found that the machine could be worked by Electricity.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Sir, if it could not be worked, then why was the machine purchased before electric power was introduced?

Sir, the answers given by the member are contradictory. I got the answer that the machine was purchased in 1927 and that they have not sufficient hands available to work the machine till now. Now they say that the machine will be worked as soon as electric power is obtained to work the machine. At the time when the machine was ordered there was no idea as to the number of people that would be required to work the machine. When it was known that a large number of hands would be required they did not entertain the number of hands required but they are waiting for the electricity scheme so that they could work the machine with electricity more advantageously. Sir, proposals are made for the purchase of a machine costing Rs. 5,000 odd and then after getting down the machine they have no idea how the machine should be worked. There is no-body to work this machine and the poor tax-payer's money is spent in this manner. That idea, Sir, you may get.

Appointments and promotions in the Stamp Manufactory.

168. MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*) : With reference to the working of the Stamp Manufactory, will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether outsiders, new and unqualified, were appointed when there were already disbanded men from the Government Mint living on one-third subsistence allowance, and, if so, why outsiders were preferred and whether there is any loss to the Government on this account ;

(*b*) whether any unqualified persons have made any corrections in their V. S. L. Certificates to make themselves qualified for a post in the Stamp Manufactory and whether that was done with or without the knowledge of the Superintendent ; and

(*c*) if so, the action taken in the matter ?

MR. S. VENKATARAMANA AIYAR (*Ag. Financial Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) Yes. Mint employees are taken in when suitable vacancies occur. But these men being rather old are found to be incapable of

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